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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Koji YANAI et al.

Serial No. 10/089,514

Filed March 29, 2002

MAY 3 1 2006

Confirmation No. 7814

Attorney Docket No. 2002 0451A

Group Art Unit 1656

Examiner Chih Min Kam

TRANSFORMANTS PRODUCING SECONDARY METABOLITES MODIFIED WITH FUNCTIONAL GROUPS, AND NOVEL BIOSYNTHESIS GENES Mail Stop: Amendment

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND REPLY

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Advisory Action dated March 1, 2006 and further to the after-final response filed February 7, 2006, Applicants herein provide the following amendments and remarks.

A Request for Continued Examination (RCE), requesting entry of the amendments in the after-final response, was filed on April 18, 2006.

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES
FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 23-0975